



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
4 August 2011

Original: English

---

## Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

2012 regular session

30 January-8 February, and 17 February 2012

### **Quadrennial reports for the period 2007-2010 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31**

**Note by the Secretary-General**

## Contents

	<i>Page</i>
1. Federación Internacional de Asociaciones de Ayuda Social Ecológica y Cultural . . . . .	2
2. Hariri Foundation . . . . .	3
3. Human Appeal International . . . . .	5
4. Human Rights Congress for Bangladesh Minorities . . . . .	7
5. Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems International . . . . .	8
6. Interact Worldwide . . . . .	10
7. International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists . . . . .	11
8. International Association of Schools of Social Work . . . . .	13
9. International Bar Association . . . . .	14
10. International Catholic Union of the Press . . . . .	16
11. International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development . . . . .	18
12. International Eurasia Press Fund . . . . .	19
13. International Federation of Social Workers . . . . .	21
14. International Fellowship of Reconciliation . . . . .	23
15. International Federation on Ageing . . . . .	25



## **1. Federación Internacional de Asociaciones de Ayuda Social Ecológica y Cultural**

**Special, 2007**

### **Introduction**

The International Federation of Associations for Social, Ecological and Cultural Help is a non-governmental organization (NGO), incorporated as an international federation of 30 associations from 14 countries in Latin America, Europe and North America.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization promotes and spreads among its associated members (which are the federated associations), and among the whole community in general, the development of: human values of solidarity, truth, spirituality, tolerance and unity; social aid to the destitute; ecology and care for the environment; and culture in general.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Participated in and expanded the draft exchange of money for work; co-financed by the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the National Plan of the Presidency of the Dominican Republic; invited United Nations representative to give lectures in the Dominican Republic in 2008 on dengue prevention, drinking water and HIV and sexually transmitted illness prevention; in relation to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, gave strong support to the Copenhagen Summit, to mark the completion of the Fifteenth World Conference organized by the United Nations to discuss climate change in December 2009 (see [www.copmoving.org](http://www.copmoving.org)); organized the Sixth Congress on the theme "The Culture for Peace", 7 to 14 July 2010 in the Dominican Republic, with the participation of 620 representatives from 14 countries, which actively promoted education in values for peace to support United Nations goals.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Representatives attended the meetings on the topics "Making combination vaccines more accessible", New York, 29 October 2010, and "Can citizen action save the world?", 21 October 2010, United Nations Headquarters. Representatives also attended the meetings through the following webcasts: "Ranking is not enough: measuring university", 20 October 2010; "The role of entrepreneurship in the attainment and sustainability of the Millennium Development Goals", 15 November 2010; "Reforming the international monetary and financial architecture", 9 December 2010.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Participation in the Universal Forum of Cultures, Monterrey, Mexico, 2007.

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

(a) Carried out specialized programmes known as centres for social development and assistance, three of them in the Dominican Republic, 2004-2010; construction and support of eight soup kitchens, maintained through sponsorships and donations, that annually benefit 2,000 children, 1993-2010; medical, dental, vaccination, food and clothing for people living in extreme poverty, 1993-2010.

(b) Education and awareness campaigns to prevent drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse and violence, 1977-2010, provided 2,000 children each year with school supplies and special help for learning problems and provided them with official birth certification; conduct literacy campaigns in the United States, the Dominican Republic and the Plurinational State of Bolivia, 1992-2010; psychological and legal support for woman and girls exposed to violence and force; education in gender equality for parents, 1992-2010; inquiry into the prevention of violence and gender inequality, February-July 2009.

(c) Fighting hunger and malnutrition among children; educating parents on precautionary measures to prevent and detect illness, 1992-2010.

(d) Special aid in disasters, such as aid for earthquake victims in Haiti, 2010, and Helping the victims of Tropical Storm Noel in the neighbourhood of Santa Rosa, Bani, Dominican Republic, November 2007; prevention campaigns: hydrocephalus (1995-2010) and diabetes, 2005-2010; insulin and hydrocephalus valve donation in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Dominican Republic and Peru.

(e) Gynaecological campaigns among women to prevent illness and promote prenatal monitoring during pregnancy in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, 1995-2010 and the Dominican Republic, 2004-2010; education in healthy nutrition in 14 countries, 1995-2010; sexual education for adolescents and adults in 14 countries, 1980-2010; mosquito control campaigns to prevent dengue fever and malaria in the Plurinational State of Bolivia and the Dominican Republic, 2006-2010.

## **2. Hariri Foundation**

### **Special, 2003**

#### **Introduction**

The Hariri Foundation for Sustainable Human Development is a Lebanese NGO that was established in 1979 by Premier Rafik Hariri. To date, the Foundation has implemented over 200 projects that are in line with the Millennium Development Goals, in partnership with more than 90 local, regional and international partners.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Foundation is dedicated to mobilizing resources (human and capital) and aggregating efforts through an all-inclusive partnership and collaboration model that aims at achieving a sustainable state of human development.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

In line with the review of the progress achieved on the Millennium Development Goals, and in the light of the recommendations of the Millennium Development Goals Summit, the Foundation has started a number of initiatives that account for the following: the role of civil society in monitoring the implementation of the Goals; the role of local policies and national strategies in the development process; the implications of the quadruple crisis on the ability of Development Assistance Committee member countries to meet their development assistance obligations and create alternative schemes for financing development projects.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Foundation contributes to the work of the United Nations and its bodies in various forms and initiatives.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

UNDP Advisory Board meetings, Cairo, 8 September 2007; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Goodwill Ambassadors' Annual Meetings, 3 April 2007, 20 May 2008 and 24 June 2010 at UNESCO headquarters, Paris; UNESCO Regional Conference on Quality Education for All, 25 August 2008, Paris; Forum of Arab Parliamentarians for Education, 21 and 22 July 2008, Beirut, organized by UNESCO, in cooperation with the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States and the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The Foundation has a number of initiatives ongoing with leading United Nations bodies such as the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, the World Bank and UNDP. A project in collaboration with the World Bank aimed at developing a guidebook for the historic core of Saida, 2008; a project in collaboration with the United Nations Development Fund for Women entitled "Achieving e-quality in the Lebanese ICT market", 2004-2009; a project in collaboration with the World Bank and the Council for Reconstruction and Development, aimed at developing the olive oil sector in southern Lebanon, 2006-2008.

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Launch of a media campaign, entitled "Khede Kasra" aimed at raising awareness on gender inequality around the country and across social classes.

Under "Youth mobilization and development in Beirut and its suburbs", the Foundation worked with different partners on the rehabilitation of the physical infrastructure in two urban slums in Beirut, in conjunction with finding a solution for a number of environmental problems such as wastes coming out of the illegal butcheries and clogged sewers.

**Additional information**

The Foundation submitted a request for change of name to the Committee of NGOs at its 2011 regular session. The new name of the organization is Hariri Foundation for Sustainable Human Development. Since the present report is being presented for the period 2007-2010, the name of the organization is being maintained as Hariri Foundation.

**3. Human Appeal International****Special, 1991****Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The organization launched several projects in the following areas:

- The advancement of women: empowerment of widows through microfinance projects and by setting up educational and vocational training centres
- Macroeconomics and finance: the organization established a special fund to provide microfinance services in Africa and Asia, and to date more than 2,000 families have benefited
- Social development: the organization allocated a special budget for habitation projects, building nutrition centres and education and vocational training centres to enhance the enjoyment by children, especially orphans, of their right to education.

**Participation in the meetings of the United Nations**

Representatives attended:

- The thirtieth session of the Governing Council of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) (14 February 2007, Rome)
- The thirty-first and thirty-second sessions of the Governing Council of IFAD (13 and 14 February 2008 and 18 and 19 February 2009, respectively, Rome)
- The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) annual consultation with non-governmental organizations (25-27 June 2008, Geneva)
- The UNHCR annual consultation with non-governmental organizations (29 June-1 July 2009, Geneva)
- Hosted the Directors of the Office of Coordination for Humanitarian Affairs and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in the United Arab Emirates, participating in the workshop on partnership with United Nations agencies during the annual meeting of the organization's field offices in the United Arab Emirates (27 February 2008).

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

- A project in collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP) to provide nutrition to infants and pregnant women in the Niger, 2010; the project on

blanket feeding for infants was implemented in collaboration with UNICEF and WFP in the Niger, 2010.

- The cash transfer project for infants aged 6-23 months was implemented in collaboration with WFP in the Niger (2010).
- Implemented an irrigation and agricultural project in Darfur, Sudan (2010), in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- Providing seeds for the Darfur agricultural project was implemented in collaboration with FAO, Darfur, Sudan (2008 and 2010).
- Agreement with WFP and UNHCR to provide nutrition to the refugees camps in Eastern Sudan (2010).
- Joint Project with FAO in support of implementing vaccination and treatment of 15,000 animals in Southern Darfur, Sudan (2008).
- Tripartite subproject agreements between Human Appeal International and UNHCR for Human Appeal International assistance in administering the refugees camps in Eastern Sudan (2007-2010).
- Water well drilling project, in cooperation with UNICEF in the Sudan (2008).
- Project in collaboration with WFP to provide nutrition to infants in the Niger (2007-2009).

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

- Provided cash assistance and household items to thousands of families and orphans.
- Housing project and distributed clothes to thousands of refugees in India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, the Niger, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, the Sudan and Yemen.
- Assisted 1,264 people in setting up microfinance projects; supported 28,662 farmers to cultivate their farms and offered financial support to 30 unemployed people.
- Distributed foodstuffs and clean water sources to thousands of families and orphans.
- Built and equipped schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina, India, Iraq, Jordan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, the Niger, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Senegal, Somalia and the Sudan.
- Assisted 557 widows in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iraq, Jordan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Senegal and the Sudan, by building training centres and setting up income-generating projects.
- Provided vaccinations against measles and established six nutrition centres in the Niger.
- Provided medical care during pregnancy and delivery to 83,587 women in Eastern Sudan.

- Conducted an HIV-awareness programme and vaccination against malaria campaigns, and donated equipment to disabled people in Bosnia and Herzegovina, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, the Niger, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Senegal, Somalia, the Sudan and Yemen.

#### **4. Human Rights Congress for Bangladesh Minorities**

##### **Special, 2007**

##### **Introduction**

The Human Rights Congress for Bangladesh Minorities is a human rights advocacy and humanitarian services organization serving the marginalized people of Bangladesh.

##### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Congress aims to work with Governments, the United Nations and other agencies to end xenophobia, and the socio-political and cultural deprivation of minorities and other marginalized people in Bangladesh; provide assistance to improve their living conditions and safeguard the full enjoyment of their rights as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

##### **Significant changes in the organization**

As from 2009, the Congress has been sponsoring students from marginalized populations to receive higher education and also encouraging academic research related to the socio-political and cultural deprivation issues of minorities and other marginalized people of Bangladesh.

Since its inception, the Congress has participated in many United Nations activities and supported its partner organizations, for example, the Bangladesh Hindu Buddha Christian Unity Council, in presenting statements at the United Nations. The organization has also provided representatives at United Nations bodies, for example, the special mandate holder of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR). For the purpose of serving OHCHR, the Congress has nominated Monorama Biswas to work as special mandate holder for the people of African descent at the Human Rights Council.

##### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

##### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

In addition to the activities stated above, the Congress actively participated in the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and conducted a parallel session at the fifty-third session of the Commission. During the parallel session, the organization held panel discussions on violence against minority women and girls, in which panellists emphasized the need for international legislation to help to uphold justice at the national level.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

In addition, the organization has participated in many activities of the United Nations through its membership in other global NGOs:

- (a) A signatory of the International Red Cross Code of Conduct for humanitarian services, including but not limited to disaster relief (Oneworld, 2009);
- (b) A partner of Children's Rights Information Network to end violence against children and to enact legal remedies (2011);
- (c) A member of the NGO coalition for the International Criminal Court to raise awareness about the Court and secure ratification from the Bangladesh State Party;
- (d) Membership in International Peace Bureau for Peace and Justice (2006).

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The core activities and services of the Congress are aligned with the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations. Many activities of the organization, including but not limited to advocacy and rehabilitation services for women and girls and humanitarian services for the poor and marginalized, directly meet the objectives of the Millennium Development Goals.

## **5. Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems International**

### **Special, 2003**

#### **Introduction**

Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems International is an international NGO helping human rights organizations to use information technologies and documentation methods to maximize the impact of their advocacy work. It develops tools and techniques, and provides advocates with customized training and support. It is also an informal, open and decentralized network of human rights organizations that wish to bring together their experiences and creativity to develop common standards and tools for information management.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

Our vision: a world where the power of information and communication is harnessed in the service of human rights. Our mission: to strengthen the capacity of human rights organizations to manage and communicate information, enhancing their effectiveness and credibility. Goal: to ensure that human rights organizations have the tools, knowledge, skills and supporting services to use their information resources effectively.

Our activities: (a) developing tools and techniques for monitoring, information management and communication; (b) providing these to human rights organizations and national human rights institutions; (c) building the capacity of the human rights community to master and adapt these tools and techniques to their specific needs through training and other activities; (d) supporting human rights organizations to

set up and strengthen their information systems; (e) improving human rights advocacy and reporting techniques; (f) expanding human rights outreach and network capacity; and (g) providing a centre of excellence on methods and techniques for human rights.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

The aims and purposes of the organization have been modified throughout the years, on the basis of our understanding of the potential and needs of human rights organizations with regard to information management and documentation, technological developments and our evaluation of our own achievements.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

In February 2009, the organization held a conference entitled “Human Rights Council and International Criminal Court: the new challenges for human rights communications”. The purpose of the conference was to reflect upon how information about human rights can be communicated more effectively by NGOs to those institutions.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization regularly participates in United Nations meetings in Geneva, in particular those related to human rights (Human Rights Council, universal periodic review). In March 2009, it organized a side event during the Human Rights Council, on the theme “Challenges for managing information on human rights”.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The organization holds regular consultations with staff members of OHCHR in Geneva as well as with staff of various field offices of OHCHR, providing advice and support with regard to information management and documentation issues. In February 2007, in partnership with OHCHR and the Nepali Human Rights Commission, it delivered two simultaneous trainings: a five-day training on monitoring and fact-finding for 10 Nepali Human Rights Commission protection officers, and a five-day training on documenting violations, with participants from 10 Nepali human rights NGOs, supported by OHCHR and UNDP. In February 2008, at the request of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Mexico, in the context of a project on the human rights of women, the organization provided a workshop on documentation of violations to NGOs.

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The organization supports the Millennium Development Goals and has taken various initiatives in the field of human rights, concerning capacity-building and tools development.

## **6. Interact Worldwide**

### **Special, 2003**

#### **Introduction**

Interact Worldwide (Interact) has worked on sexual and reproductive health and rights through local civil society partners in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

Interact is an international development NGO based in the United Kingdom, with over 30 years of experience supporting sexual and reproductive health and rights information and services in some of the world's poorest communities. Interact specializes in working with local partners through a rights-based approach that allows poor and marginalized people to demand as a "right" the basic conditions that allow them to live in dignity and realize their sexual and reproductive health and rights. Our work focuses specifically on the most marginalized communities and individuals, those who most commonly experience stigma, discrimination, abuse and denial of rights. Our vision is a world where all people are equally able to enjoy sexual and reproductive health and well-being and exercise their sexual and reproductive rights. Our mission is to improve the sexual and reproductive health of, and attainment of sexual and reproductive rights by, marginalized groups.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

Interact merged with Plan UK on 1 October 2009 but remains an autonomous organization with its own Board of Trustees as part of the Plan UK family. The merger allows Interact to expand its sexual and reproductive health and rights programme to more countries and develop new business models to ensure that even more young people and adults can lead healthier lives. It also ensures greater financial stability and structural support for the organization.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Its programmes have contributed to the advancement of the sexual and reproductive health and rights of vulnerable groups in Africa, Asia and Latin America. This is achieved by developing the capacity of our civil society partners to deliver rights-based sexual and reproductive health and rights programmes that increase demand and facilitate access to sexual and reproductive health and rights and services. Our policy and advocacy work — with partners in-country, in the United Kingdom, Europe and globally — is structured around supporting and promoting the achievement of the health-related Millennium Development Goals. We work specifically on advocacy through the Countdown 2015 European advocacy network, and health through Action for Global Health, also a cross-European advocacy network. Interact supports the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to keep sexual and reproductive health and rights high on the agenda of the United Kingdom Government.

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

March 2009: Interact made a written submission to the forty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development.

Summer/autumn 2009: a representative took part in United Kingdom civil society and Government discussions on the formation of UN-Women.

June-September 2010: representatives contributed to discussions and inputs on the outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly summit on the Millennium Development Goals, New York, September 2010; representatives also commented and contributed through civil society channels to the Secretary-General's Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health.

September 2010: attended the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly in New York, and organized a presentation at the United Nations Foundation bloggers' lounge.

September 2010-present: a representative has contributed to the implementation of the Secretary-General's Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health, including through convening the United Kingdom civil society discussions with the United Kingdom Government and comments made to the online forum of "Every Woman, Every Child".

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

In May 2007, UNFPA awarded Interact a grant of \$40,000 towards our advocacy programme, "Strengthening linkages: new directions in sexual and reproductive health and rights and HIV and AIDS advocacy". Interact was awarded a further grant from UNFPA in early 2011 in order to support our policy and advocacy work towards the United Kingdom Government.

#### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Interact plays a key role in two cross-European advocacy networks: Action for Global Health and Countdown 2015 Europe. As part of these networks, Interact has worked with the United Kingdom Government, donors and civil society to raise awareness of the importance of reaching the Millennium Development Goals as well as the importance of addressing the unmet need for family planning.

## **7. International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists**

### **Special, 1995**

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists was founded in 1969 and strives to advance human rights globally, and is committed to the agenda of the Jewish people. It works to combat racism, xenophobia, anti-semitism, Holocaust denial and worldwide attacks on the State of Israel. It is represented at the principal United Nations human rights organs. The Association was created in 1969 as a membership association of Jewish lawyers and jurists. Its principal purpose is to promote respect for human rights and equality.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The organization has contributed to upholding the human rights of individuals through avenues such as:

- The presentation of a counter-statement after the Human Rights Council presented the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 (A/HRC/4/17) (March 2007)
- Issued a statement that was submitted to the sixth special session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (January 2008)
- Submitted a statement on the appointment of a Commission of Inquiry by the Human Rights Council with regard to the events of the conflict in the Gaza Strip (April 2009).

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The Association participated in numerous United Nations-related events, including:

- Meetings with the Deputy Director of the Outreach Division, Department of Public Information (September 2009)
- Subcommittee for the Elimination of Racism of the International NGO Committee on Human Rights (December 2009)
- Meetings with the Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information (January 2010)
- Holocaust Remembrance Day events (27 January 2010)
- Drafted a letter to the Secretary-General on 19 September 2010 concerning a statement given in the General Assembly.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

- Addressed the International Committee of the Red Cross regarding Gilad Shalit, the captive Israeli soldier in the hands of Hamas for over five years, and approached the Red Cross chapters in 10 different countries on his behalf (June 2010).
- Sent a letter and a report to Christian Tomuschat, Chair of the Committee appointed by the United Nations to investigate Operation “Cast Lead” (August 2010).

#### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The Association collaborated with other Jewish associations to host the following events:

- A conference in Washington, D.C., entitled: “Protecting human rights and democratic values in an age of terrorism” (March 2007)
- A conference in Buenos Aires on the theme “Responsible leadership, global challenges and local solutions” (May 2007)
- A civil law suit was filed on behalf of six individuals who lost their loved ones in the car bombing in Buenos Aires in 1994 (October 2007)
- A legal opinion on the declaration of acceptance of the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court made by the Minister of Justice of the Palestinian Authority was sent to the Prosecutor of the Court (September 2009)

- Seminar entitled “Democracy fights terror” at the Hebrew University for a delegation of eight distinguished justices, prosecutors and Government officials from Madrid (November 2009).

## **8. International Association of Schools of Social Work**

### **Special, 1947**

#### **Introduction**

The International Association of Schools of Social Work is a worldwide association of schools of social work, other tertiary-level social work educational programmes, and social work educators.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

Members of the Association are united in their obligation to the continued pursuit of social justice and social development. In carrying out its mission, the Association fosters cooperation, collegiality and interdependence among its members and with others.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

The Association has developed a larger membership in China.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

We have continued to organize and participate on panels on a monthly basis.

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

As co-chair of the NGO Committee on Migration, the Association organized: a parallel event with the Commission for Social Development; an update of the 2010 Civil Society Days of the Global Forum on Migration and Development; a lecture on migrants in Eastern Europe and a presentation by the Task Force on Human Trafficking; a statement on the empowerment of migrant women; a programme in conjunction with the Department of Public Information briefing on the impact of migration on families around the world, in observance of the International Day of Families; as well as a programme to mark International Refugee Day.

The representative also participated in seminars and conferences organized by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research. In April, she gave a presentation on international adoptions of children, as part of a newly established project of IOM and UNICEF to study cross-cutting issues relating to children and migration around the world. In May, she contributed to the planning for the Department of Public Information briefing.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The twenty-seventh annual Social Work Day at the United Nations was held on 29 March. The overall theme, “Social work and social welfare: a commitment to partnership with the United Nations”, was planned to be consistent with the Tripartite Joint Meeting to be held in Hong Kong, China, in June. Accordingly, the three subthemes were “Life course challenges”, “equity and social inclusion”, and

“sustainable environment”. On the basis of our previous consultations and the discussions during the Hong Kong conference, we propose the following areas as a framework for the first draft of the Global Agenda, to be developed and articulated following further consultation: social and economic inequalities within countries and between regions; and the recent and continuing economic crises and the modalities chosen by world leaders to deal with them (e.g., using resources to support the financial systems while cutting resources for social support and social development).

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Our organization would have been able to contribute more to the implementation of United Nations programmes if not for the following problems: information about international meetings and conferences is scarce and arrives too late, while scarce funds and few representative staff (all volunteers) make attendance at international meetings very difficult.

## **9. International Bar Association**

### **Special, 1947**

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

- 2006 Plurinational State of Bolivia — access to justice
  - Gambia — status of rule of law and independence of judiciary
- 2007 Colombia — capacity of institutions responsible for delivering remedy for victims of grave human rights violations
  - Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela — independence of judiciary and legal profession
  - Pakistan — response to an attempt to remove the Chief Justice
  - Malawi — strengthened the Malawi Law Society
  - Uganda — a judicial independence
  - Islamic Republic of Iran — independence of legal profession and access to justice
  - Zimbabwe — investigation on the role of police in the administration of justice
  - Poland — independence of judiciary and legal profession
- 2008 South Africa — judicial independence
  - Fiji — assessment of rule of law
  - Cameroon — investigation on torture and conditions of detention
  - Sri Lanka — independence of the judiciary and the legal profession
  - Democratic Republic of the Congo — needs of justice system
  - Pakistan — judicial independence

- Kenya — needs assessment of justice system
- Brazil — technical assistance on pretrial detention
- Afghanistan — establishing and maintaining an independent bar association
- 2009 Zambia — continuing legal education
- Libyan Arab Jamahiriya — human rights, prohibition and monitoring of torture and of detainees
- Czech Republic — on international human rights for Iraqis
- 2010 Democratic Republic of the Congo — assisted the Lubumbashi Bar on continuing legal education
- Liberia — review of Liberian National Bar Association
- Brazil — rule of law and criminal justice
- Colombia — independence of the legal profession and due process guarantees

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

- Human Rights Council, fifteenth session — meeting with the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan
- Human Rights Council, sixteenth session — Human Rights Institute brought Darfur lawyers
- Human Rights Institute attended the tenth universal periodic review session
- Human Rights Council, eleventh session — Human Rights Institute participated in NGO side events
- International Bar Association Arbitration Committee: fifty-fourth session of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Working Group II (Arbitration and Conciliation) New York, February 2011; fifty-third session of the UNCITRAL Working Group II (Arbitration and Conciliation) Vienna, October 2010, and forty-third session of UNCITRAL, New York, June-July 2010
- International Bar Association International Constructions Projects Committee: eighteenth session of the UNCITRAL Working Group I (Procurement), New York, April 2010
- International Bar Association Section on Insolvency, Restructuring and Creditors Rights: attended thirty-eighth session of the UNCITRAL Working Group V (Insolvency Law), New York, April 2010; thirty-ninth session of the UNCITRAL Working Group V (Insolvency Law), Vienna, December 2010, and forty-third session of UNCITRAL, New York, June 2010
- International Bar Association Technology Law Committee: UNCTAD meeting of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, Geneva, May 2009; UNCTAD Multi-Year Expert Meeting on Enterprise Development Policies and Capacity-Building in Science, Technology and Innovation, Geneva, January 2010

- International Bar Association Trade and Customs Law: UNCTAD Multi-Year Expert Meeting on Services, Development and Trade: the Regulatory and Institutional Dimension, March 2010
- International Bar Association African Regional Forum: UNCTAD Investment Policy Review of Nigeria, Geneva, May 2009
- International Bar Association European Regional Forum: UNCTAD Investment Policy Review of Belarus, Geneva, 2010

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

- Anti-Corruption Strategy for Legal Profession: programme by the International Bar Association with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
- Business and Society Exploring Solutions: initiative under mandate of United Nations Special Representative on Business and Human Rights
- Lawyers as Leaders: video project with the United Nations Global Compact
- Collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: organization of the first General Assembly of the Afghan Bar (2008)
- Afghanistan: participation in working groups on rule of law and access to justice — collaboration with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

#### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Promotion of the rule of law

## **10. International Catholic Union of the Press**

### **Special, 1951**

#### **Introduction**

The past four years have been one of the most interesting periods in the history of the world union. A great number of ongoing formation events could be organized in line with the goals of the United Nations and in cooperation with United Nations bodies. Some 1,000 journalists in different parts of the world attended these events annually. There is a growing demand for these types of programmes. As can be seen from the themes of the programmes, they are all in line with the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The aims and purposes of the Union are to:

- Favour ethical reflection and research
- Support and coordinate the activities of members, emphasizing fellowship and mutual exchange

- Represent high-level and high-standard journalism and media production among international institutions and organizations
- Organize congresses to stimulate collegiality, dialogue, study and reflection among members on timely themes, to witness to human values in journalism and in all the media and to foster the exchange of professional information and experience
- Encourage the presence and support the action of professionals in the sectors of information and communication in all its forms
- Promote the development of journalism and media production in all countries in a spirit of solidarity
- Take all possible initiatives for the human and Christian formation of media professionals, especially in the field of ethics
- Promote and defend the right to information and freedom of opinion, especially by supporting threatened journalists in the exercise of their profession.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

- It is important that people at the grass-roots level have the power, otherwise the well-being of all can never be guaranteed.
- Those that are responsible for evils such as extreme poverty and malnutrition; injustices in trade, currency and services; and corruption and domination are the powerful.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

- Organizes annually three or four programmes in line with the principles of the United Nations
- Makes peoples and nations aware of the real causes of events and policies with the help of journalists and other media experts
- Encourages, defends and sustains freedoms of the press, information, expression and life.

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Several of our journalists attend the meetings worldwide and report on United Nations policies and events.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

We regularly organize events for journalists, in cooperation with United Nations bodies.

#### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

As can be seen from the themes of the programme, they are all in line with the Millennium Development Goals.

### **Additional information**

We are quite concerned that the United Nations is losing its political role in the last decade and is becoming more and more a humanitarian agency. Therefore, we are trying our best with our prestigious position as a world union of journalists and media experts to bring together Government leaders, religious leaders and civil society leaders in our seminars, meetings and events so that they can better exercise their roles in promoting the well-being of the whole of humanity.

## **11. International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development**

### **Special, 2003**

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

- Joint project on patents and clean energy with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the European Patent Office
- Joint UNCTAD-International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development project on intellectual property rights and sustainable development
- Project on technology transfer for local manufacturing capacity of drugs and vaccines, in collaboration with UNCTAD and the support of the World Health Organization (WHO)
- Project on food security and livelihoods in collaboration with FAO
- Initiative on least developed countries and work in preparation for the Fourth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries
- Project on genetic resources and access and benefit-sharing.

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The Centre has gained accreditation to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (2007) and observer status with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2010). It has held side events to a number of these meetings.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

- Meeting on trade, globalization and environment, organized in collaboration with UNEP, alongside the twenty-fourth session of the Governing Council of the Global Environment Ministerial Forum, 5-9 February 2007, Nairobi
- Fishing for sustainability: maintaining momentum for fisheries subsidies reform, co-organized with UNEP, the World Wildlife Fund and Ocean, alongside the International Union for the Conservation of Nature Fourth World Conservation Congress, 6 October 2008, in Barcelona, Spain
- Geneva Trade and Development Symposium 2009, organized by the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development and partners, including UNEP and FAO, alongside the World Trade Organization Ministerial Meeting, 30 November-2 December 2009, in Geneva

- Geneva Dialogue on Intellectual Property Offices and the Implementation of the World Intellectual Property Organization Development, 18 September 2009, Geneva
- Consultation with the private sector on climate change and intellectual property rights, co-organized with UNEP and the European Patent Office, 8 May 2009, Geneva
- Geneva Trade and Biodiversity Day, co-organized with UNEP and Rio+20, 22 April 2010, Geneva

Joint publications with United Nations bodies include:

- Indicators for the Selection of Agricultural Special Products: Some Empirical Evidence, Joint International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development/FAO Information Note, 2007
- Promoting Sustainable Land Management through Trade: Examining the Linkages between Trade, Livelihoods and Sustainable Land Management in Degraded Areas, Joint Background Paper of the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development and the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, 2007
- Guidelines for the Examination of Pharmaceutical Patents: Developing a Public Health Perspective, by Carlos Correa, a joint UNCTAD-International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development working paper, 2007.

#### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Given the Centre's mission of empowering stakeholders in trade policy through information, dialogue and capacity-building, to influence the international trade system so that it advances the goal of sustainable development, its work on Aid for Trade contributes to meeting the Millennium Development Goal of ending poverty and hunger, as does the agriculture programme which seeks to promote food security, equity and environmental sustainability in agricultural trade. The project on technology transfer for local manufacturing capacity of drugs and vaccines, in collaboration with UNCTAD and with the support of WHO, is in support of the Millennium Development Goal of combating HIV/AIDS. The goal of environmental sustainability is and has been at the heart of a number of the Centre's initiatives, programmes, meetings and publications, including all of the activities of its Global Platform on Climate Change, Trade and Sustainable Energy, and its Programme on Environment and Natural Resources.

## **12. International Eurasia Press Fund**

**Special, 2007**

### **Introduction**

The International Eurasia Press Fund started during the era of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. At that time, the country was in disarray and was at war with Armenia, with the consequence that close to a million Azerbaijanis were displaced from their homelands, and also some aspects of government collapsed — including

the dissemination of information. Prior to Azerbaijan attaining the status of an independent republic, the standard practice was that all information passed through the Kremlin in Moscow, and thus there was high level of censorship. The Fund was registered with the Azerbaijani Government as a not-for-profit organization in September 1992.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The aim of the Fund's activity is to collect objective information about regions of armed conflict and to distribute it as well as to study and analyse the regional conflicts in the historical, political and other contexts with the purpose of achieving their peaceful resolution. The peaceful solution of the Nagorno-Karabakh problem is a priority focus of the Fund's activities.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

The Fund has strategized its actions around the Millennium Development Goals. As a consequence, the Fund is a champion of the Goals in Azerbaijan among civil society organizations.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Fund's intention was to become more active in promoting United Nations mandates in Azerbaijan and also in sharing best practices from Azerbaijan with the United Nations. Nationally, the Fund has continued to promote the United Nations with local NGOs and civil society organizations. In particular, the Fund has made a priority the promotion of democracy in Azerbaijan, without necessarily being political or affiliating with any political party. Human rights, gender equality and the advancement of women's rights, governance, economic and social development are the focus of the action plan of the Fund.

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

In July 2007, the Fund took part in the Economic and Social Council annual ministerial review. The Fund also participated in the Innovation Fair.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The Fund and the Department of Public Information office in Azerbaijan began to work together in 2010. The focal point was to conduct several meetings in the regions of Azerbaijan. The topic of discussion would centre on the Millennium Development Goals. To this effect, in April 2010, the Fund, together with the Department of Public Information, took a trip to Borsunlu village, Tartar, in order to conduct mine risk education and to mark the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action. UNHCR and the Fund have shared useful information through surveys of the living conditions and social standards of refugees and asylum-seekers in Azerbaijan; such surveys were on Iraqis (2008) and on Chechens (2010).

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Over the years, the Fund has undertaken several activities in partnership with various organizations based in Europe and the United States. It has also participated in several conferences and congresses for the purpose of sharing experiences on the Millennium Development Goals and of strengthening partnerships for development in Azerbaijan.

### **Additional information**

As a member of the International Press Institute, the Fund participates annually in the International Press Institute World Congress and the General Assembly; it also makes proposals and raises issues related to the development of independent media in Azerbaijan.

## **13. International Federation of Social Workers**

### **Special, 1959**

#### **Introduction**

The International Federation of Social Workers is a global federation of national organizations of social workers (unions or associations). It is striving for social justice, human rights and social development through the development of social work, best practices and international cooperation between social workers and their professional organizations.

#### **Aims and purposes of the Organization**

- To promote social work as a profession through cooperation and action on an international basis, especially as regards professional standards, training, ethics and working conditions
- To support national associations in promoting the participation of social workers in social planning, and the formulation of social policies
- To encourage and facilitate contacts between social workers of all countries and to provide media for discussion and exchange of ideas, through meetings, study visits, research, exchange of publications and other means of communication
- To present the point of the profession on an international level by establishing relations with international organizations, governmental or voluntary, operating in, or interested in, the field of social welfare, and to assist in the carrying out of social planning, action and welfare programmes sponsored by such organizations.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

- Information to its membership and others about United Nations activities and initiatives, on the website and through the newsletter

- Commitment to the protection and advancement of human rights strengthened by the work of its own Human Rights Commission in establishing a new interactive website for a broad discussion on human rights issues
- Representatives participated in important United Nations sessions on human rights issues, such as the sessions of the Human Rights Council in Geneva
- Organized Social Work Days in New York: twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh annual Social Work Days, attended by UNDP Administrators and a delegate from UNFPA; twenty-eighth annual Social Work Day, which featured a speech by the Senior Social Affairs Officer, Division of Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

- The Federation submitted an official statement (E/CN.6/2011/NGO/8) as a contribution to the work of the Commission on the Status of Women
- For the UNICEF reference group on Child Protection Mapping Plan, the Federation provided feedback on the conceptual clarity draft and on the mapping and assessment tool
- Ongoing work on a document on human rights and extreme poverty, with a view to finalizing its adoption by 2012
- At the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Federation has submitted a paper and is pursuing this with members of the Committee
- As a member of the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs, the Federation participated in several regular meetings, as well as in side events of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs meeting in March 2009 and 2010
- Contributed by means of web-based discussions to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
- World Urban Campaign quarterly meetings held at the United Nations Office at Nairobi
- Participated in the twenty-second session of the UN-Habitat Governing Council and issued a statement at the main plenary, April 2009.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The Federation has cooperated with the United Nations through a network of representatives, based in Geneva, Nairobi (at UN-Habitat), New York and Vienna. Additionally, the Federation is represented at the WHO Advisory Group for the tenth revision of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems.

#### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

- Publication and distribution of international policy papers to schools of social work, national associations, and so forth in policy-related topics such as cross-border reproductive services, globalization and the environment and international policy on ageing and older adults and displaced persons

- The organization of the Federation's World Conferences for Social Work and Social Development, which focused on several topics related to United Nations initiatives
- Launching of the Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development at the Joint World Conference in Hong Kong, China (organized in 2010 together with International Association of Schools of Social Work and International Council of Social Welfare). The agenda addresses the major challenges of our societies (see [www.globalsocialagenda.org](http://www.globalsocialagenda.org)). The launch was attended by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs.

## **14. International Fellowship of Reconciliation**

### **Special, 1979**

#### **Introduction**

International Fellowship of Reconciliation is an international, multi-faith movement of women and men committed to active non-violence as a way of life and as a means of political, social and economic transformation.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Fellowship works for a more peaceful, humane and just society in the world by promoting a culture of non-violence, dialogue and reconciliation. Its activities are conducted in cooperation and support with its network of members, United Nations representatives and international staff.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Fellowship supports the United Nations by participating regularly in conferences and meetings of the United Nations through its representatives in New York, Geneva and Vienna and reporting thereon in its publications.

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

- Annual session of the Commission on the Status of Women: New York, March 2007
- Attendance at public meetings of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and co-organization of a youth camp on nuclear issues: Vienna, April-May 2008
- Participated at the seventh session of the Human Rights Council: Geneva, March; and submitted a statement on the situation of conscientious objectors to military service
- Attended the ninth session of the Human Rights Council: Geneva, September 2008; and submitted a statement on arbitrary detention of conscientious objectors to military service in certain countries in contradiction to commentary 22 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

- Participated at the tenth session of the Human Rights Council: Geneva, March 2009; and submitted a statement in relation to the working group on arbitrary detention
- Attendance at the tenth session of the Human Rights Council and presentation of an oral statement on religious freedom: Geneva, 2-27 March 2009
- Participation in the meetings of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: New York, 4-15 May 2009
- Presented a statement on the situation of conscientious objectors to military service at the thirteenth session of the Human Rights Council: Geneva, September
- Attendance at the United Nations observance of the International Day of Non-Violence: New York, 2 October 2010
- Attended the Regional Seminar on the Arms Trade Treaty; February 2010
- Attended the thirteenth session of the Human Rights Council and submitted a written statement on religious freedom: Geneva, 1-26 March 2010
- Participation at the third session of the Working Group on indigenous people: Geneva, 10-14 July 2010
- Attendance at the fifth session of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee: Geneva, August 2010; an appeal was made for a declaration on the right to peace
- Representation at a special meeting on the Convention on Cluster Munitions: New York, 19 October 2010.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

- The International Fellowship of Reconciliation representative to UNESCO has been working as a member in the Joint Programmatic Commissions of the UNESCO-NGO Liaison Committee on Youth and Human Rights
- At the sixty-first United Nations Department of Public Information/NGO Conference on Human Rights, the International Fellowship of Reconciliation representative to UNESCO organized a workshop about community-based responses to genocide and mass violence: Paris, 3-5 September 2008.

#### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

- Participation of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation representative to UNESCO in the 181st session of the Executive Board Committee on NGOs by evaluating the revitalization process of a stronger partnership for Africa, gender equality and intercultural dialogue: Paris, 9-10 September 2009
- In observance of the twentieth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the International Fellowship of Reconciliation representative to UNESCO worked in the steering committee of the Joint Programmatic Commissions of the UNESCO-NGO Liaison Committee: Paris, November 2010.

## **15. International Federation on Ageing**

### **General, 1995**

#### **Introduction**

The International Federation on Ageing is an international non-governmental membership-based organization of older persons, NGOs, government, academia and industry. The Federation works to generate positive change for older people globally by stimulating, collecting, analysing, and disseminating information on effective age-related policies and practices.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

Our main aim is to advance the well-being of older people globally through creating worldwide forums for discussion, knowledge exchange and transfer; and building connections between stakeholder groups. Actions include working with intergovernmental bodies on policy development; publishing and distributing policy-related information; organizing meetings on a global and regional basis; conducting social research; and promoting the exchange of information and experiences among associations of older people on the United Nations-designated priorities and issues.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

The Federation relocated its headquarters from Montreal, Canada, to Toronto in March 2009. Charitable status under paragraph 149 (1) (f) of the Canadian Income Tax Act was granted retrospectively from 13 April 2006. As a consequence, there were minor amendments to the Letters Patent and By-Laws.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Two global conferences were convened on United Nations-designated issues — Priority III of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, on ageing and design (4-7 September 2008, Montreal), and on climate for change, focusing on healthy ageing, social inclusion and resourcing change (3-6 May 2010, Melbourne). Two closed intergovernmental meetings were convened on the themes “Ageing in place” (3 September 2008, Montreal) and “Social inclusion” (2 May 2010, Melbourne). With HelpAge Asia Pacific, the Federation convened a regional conference (1 and 2 May 2010, Melbourne) to advance the regional agendas on ageing. Regional meetings of civil society and government representatives were convened to inform, exchange knowledge and strengthen understanding in Beijing, (May 2008); Istanbul (December 2010); Hyderabad, India (November 2007) and Akita, Japan (October 2009). United Nations officials made presentations at each event. Content-specific meetings were convened to advance the United Nations agenda, for example, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (16 June 2009, Toronto) with the focus on intergenerational activities in secondary school settings.

#### **Participation in the meetings of the United Nations**

Oral and written statements were made at the forty-fifth to forty-eighth sessions of the Commission for Social Development. In collaboration with civil society, the Federation contributed to a joint statement on the theme of rights of older people

(2009). Parallel side sessions were convened in 2009 and 2010. IFA was present at: the fifty-second to fifty-fourth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and the twelfth and thirteenth sessions of the Human Rights Council (Geneva); participated in all International Days of Older Persons and co-chaired the event in 2007.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The International Federation on Ageing Secretary-General was a participant in and panellist at the UNFPA expert group meeting on ensuring an enabling environment (Istanbul, October 2007); the President of the Federation was a participant in the expert group meeting on the rights of older persons (Bonn, May 2009); the Federation's Director for International Relations was a participant in the expert group meeting on the priority medical devices project (Geneva, October 2007). The Federation secured the panel placement of an older person for the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (2009); the Secretary-General of the Federation is collaborating with the UNFPA project on the state of the world's older persons 2012 (2010-present). The Federation works closely with Department for Economic and Social Affairs focal points on ageing and disability; and with the secretariat for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

#### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Representatives made public statements on the importance of the Millennium Development Goals in various meetings within and outside the United Nations, particularly on the role of older persons. Federation statements to the Commission for Social Development stressed the importance of working in partnership with the United Nations towards the fulfilment of the Goals.

#### **Additional information**

Membership continues to grow with particular interest from all levels of Government as a direct result of the biannual Senior Government Officials meetings.

---